

Department Assists in Hurricane Relief Effort

The aftermath of Hurricane Katrina left the Gulf Coast with thousands of buildings in disrepair and a network of highways in need of attention. Among the problems to be dealt with across Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama were flooded highways, debris in the roadways and structural damage of various degrees to roadways and bridges.

Damage was extensive and the need to get the highways up and running again resulted in a call from Mississippi to the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department (AHTD). Through EMAC, the Emergency Management Assistance Compact, a disaster impacted state can request and receive assistance from other member states. Turning to EMAC, the Mississippi Department of Transportation (MDOT) called the AHTD for help.

Besides clearing debris from the roadways, attention had to be focused on assessing damage to bridges in the area.

Volunteering for a trip to Hancock County, Mississippi, from the AHTD staff were Senior Bridge Design Engineer Bryan Freeling and Advanced Bridge Design Engineer Dallas Stevens of the Bridge Division.

The team had no problems driving down to Bay St. Louis. Road



(I. to r.) Bridge Design Engineers Bryan Freeling and Dallas Stevens responded to the call for assistance in the Gulf Coast area.



Damage in the Gulf Coast area was extensive.

crews had been through and moved fallen trees off of the road and cleaned up debris that had caused traffic problems. What proved to be a problem was finding their way around the area.

"The storm had destroyed all of the street signs in the area. We had city and county maps but we did a lot of doubling back and driving just to make sure we were in the right places," stated Freeling. "People had taken pieces of wood or the side of cars and painted addresses on them. Getting around in a strange place with no street signs is a lot harder than you would think."

Their first task was to inspect the Caesar Necaise Bridge near Bay St. Louis. The military felt it may have been damaged by the storm.

"I believe that is how the ball got rolling as they looked for volunteers to look at the bridge," Freeling added. "Our role was to first make sure how safe the Caesar Necaise Bridge was and then assess any damage and report it. After we looked at the bridge, we took on the job of looking at the rest of the State Aid bridges in the county, and approximately 13 miles of sea wall around Bay St. Louis and Waveland."

(see RECOVERY, Page 3)

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Name/Job Title: Debra Meyer, District 9 Office Manager in Harrison, Arkansas.

Length of Service: In April 1973, I began as a Payroll Clerk in District 6. I worked in the Maintenance and Surveys Divisions before transferring to Harrison as Office Manager in May 1987.

Job Duties: I review all daily reports to make sure charges are made properly and stock is issued appropriately. I also review the monthly performance summary charges for accuracy. I interview, train and cross-train employees and back up each position. I perform audits on all areas that have assets and inventory in our budget, including our Maintenance, Construction, Materials and Radio equipment. I represent the District and assist Internal Audi-

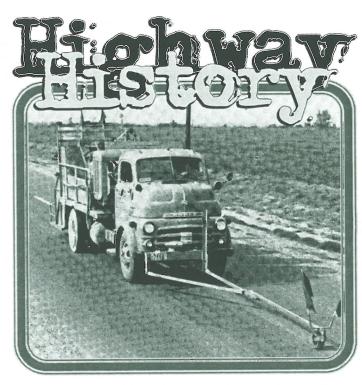
tors when the District is audited. It is my duty to make sure we comply with Department audit policies as they relate to each position under my direct supervision. There are always research projects going on and I assist in many of those. Duties of all District Office Managers are quite varied and interesting, at times.

Favorite part of the job: The people in District 9 are awesome to work with. They are all like family. Everyone takes pride in their work and they're ready to help out where needed. I enjoy getting out and doing my field audits. The supervisors I work with are always willing to do whatever is necessary to make sure we follow audit procedures. I like the diversity of my job and being able to help so many people. I enjoy researching things and solving mysteries, and in this line of work,

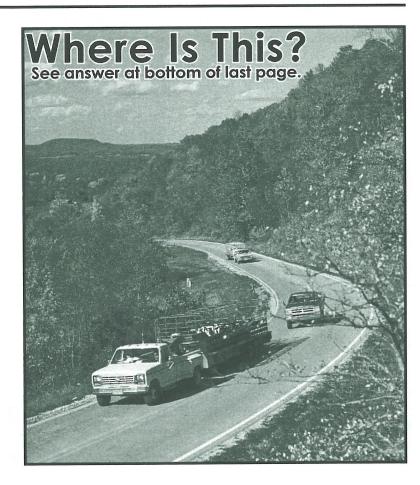
there's always something going on. I like my weekends, but I have never dreaded coming to work and have always been thankful to have such a job.

Family: In October, Doyle and I celebrate 22 glorious years of marriage. We have two sons, Cullen, 21 and James, 17. Although the boys are still in the home, they have so much going on in their lives, we almost feel the "empty nest" syndrome we hear about from others. We are the only ones on both sides of our family that live "up North". The rest of our families live in and around Little Rock. Although we don't get down there as often as we'd like, we always enjoy visiting them. Our families are important to us.

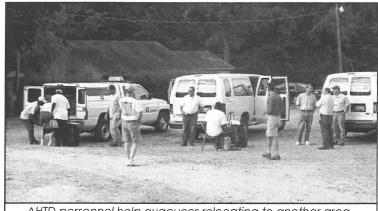
Hobbies: I enjoy reading. We have a large garden. Hiking and floating the Buffalo River or Crooked Creek are fun. I am involved in James' schooling. Our church is important, and we spend a lot of time there and with our church family. I work with the Tiny Tots on Sundays and teens on Wednesdays. We are an active church and there is always plenty to do with serving the Lord.



Centerline striping on Highway 11 near Stuttgart in the 1950s.



RECOVERY (continued from Page 1)



AHTD personnel help evacuees relocating to another area.

Damage in the gulf area was extensive. AHTD Director Dan Flowers held telephone conversations with the Director of the Mississippi Department of Transportation, the Louisiana Secretary of Transportation and the Chief Engineer for the Alabama Department of Transportation offering more crews from the AHTD for cleanup, sign replacement, traffic signal maintenance and road inspections where needed.

"South of Interstate 10, damage was almost total," Stevens stated. "Many houses and buildings had simply been washed away and those that were still standing had been completely submerged and will have to be gutted. Debris, consisting of building materials and fallen trees, was piled up almost everywhere."

"The damage in the area is probably close to 100% if you were within three to four miles of the water. Probably 90% loss up to six miles from the water, and then probably 80% north of Highway 10," Freeling added.



Damage to the sea wall in the Old Town area of Bay St. Louis.

"There were a great number of things that had to be accomplished," stated AHTD Director Dan Flowers. "We stood ready to help in any way we could."

Conditions in the area demanded increased security. As a result, the AHTD sent 16 Highway Police Officers to provide public safety duty in the Jackson County area of Mississippi. Another 35 officers were placed on standby status ready to respond.

"Our officers were told to be prepared for extreme working and living conditions," said Arkansas Highway Police (AHP) Chief Ron Burks.

One of those officers was PTL Jeffery Smith. "The damage was unbelievable," he commented. "The people that were affected by Katrina went out of their way to thank us for being there."

The hurricanes left thousands of people homeless and raised the problem of finding housing for storm victims. One solution was manufactured housing. The challenge was getting that housing to the storm area in a hurry. Responding to a request from the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the AHP Permit Section identified specific routes for the quick transport of manufactured housing across Arkansas into the Gulf Coast area without permit. The AHP also waived permit fees for other over-sized/over-weight loads providing direct relief to the hurricane stricken area.



Arkansas Highway Police sent 16 officers to help in the recovery efforts. (I. to r., front) CPL Jeff Yates, CPL Andy Smith, PTL Jeff Smith, CPL Brad Perkins, CPL Bruce Harris, and CPL Tim Choate. (I. to r., back) CPL Darren Smith, CPL Mark Pyburn, CPL Tim Culver, SGT Martin Nunnery, PFC Greg Massey, PFC Louis Hatchett, CPL David Stovall, SGT Scott Fraley, SGT Doug Honey, and PFC Nick Phillips.

It was immediately evident that the number of evacuees was so large that many people would have to be sent to neighboring states, including Arkansas. As a result, camps were set up throughout Arkansas including Fort Chaffee in western Arkansas. AHP officers were called upon once again, this time to provide security at the camp. The AHTD also provided two self-contained light plants to Fort Chaffee.

As more evacuees arrived in Arkansas, Highway Police were called upon to also provide bus escorts from Fort Chaffee to other various camps in the area. The Department also located 46 buses and vans for use at Fort Chaffee for evacuee transport in the local area as needed.

(see RECOVERY, Page 5)







District 1: James Eddie Tucker, District Caretaker, receives his 15-year service award.



District 1: Benford Adell, Single Axle Truck Driver in St. Francis County, receives his 10-year service award.



District 9: Shirley Gray, Field Clerk II, receives her 10-year service award from Jeff Wheeler, Resident Engineer #92.



Fiscal Services: Jim Whitley, 4 months old, is the son of Wayne Whitley, Budget & Expenditure Controller, & wife Kimberly.



Planning & Research: Service awards were recently received by (front row, l. tor.) Alan Meadors, Division Head, 25 years; Steve Alexander, Administrative Officer III, 25 years; Velma Smith, Transportation Management Analyst II, 15 years; (back row, l. tor.) Cliff McKinney, Intermodal Transportation Planner, 20 years; Michael Schiffl, Cartographer IV, 25 years; Sheila Neighbors, Office Administrative Assistant V, 25 years; Paul Edwards, Section Head - Mapping & Graphics, 40 years; Steve Mitchell, Senior Transportation Planner, 25 years.



District 1: Receiving their 20-year service awards were (I. to r.) Charles Aldridge, Senior Mechanic; and Danny Glenn, Electrical, Plumbing & Mechanical Repairer.



Planning & Research: Jaelun Thomas, son of Johnna Thomas, Transportation Management Analyst I, and husband Patrick, recently turned 3 years old.



Maintenance: (I. tor.) Chuck Bishop, Communications Maintenance Specialist, receives his 20-year service award from Kevin Purifoy, Section Head, Communications.



Maintenance: (I. to r.) Ed McLaughlin, Communications Maintenance Specialist, receives his 40-year service award from Kevin Purifoy, Section Head, Communications.



District 6: (I. tor.) Sam Neal, Jr., Senior Mechanic in the District Shop Crew, receives his 15-year service award from Rex Spurlock, District Maintenance Engineer.

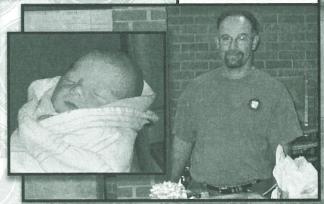
Programs & Contracts: Nancy Jo Summers, Programs & Contracts Tech Il in the Project Development Section, recently retired with 29+ years of service with the Department. She is pictured at her retirement party, June 22, 2005, with (L.) Frank Vozel, Assistant to the Director, and (r.) Dan Flowers, Director.

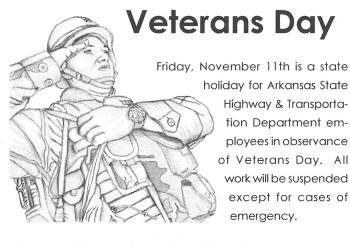


District 1: Service awards were recently received by (I. tor.) Marilyn Johnson, Field Clerk II, 5 years; Juanita Mendez, Maintenance Aide II, 10 years; Jeff Kaiser, Construction Aide III, 5 years; Brian McElyea, Construction Aide III, 5 years; Alton Chapman, Backhoe/Front End Loader Operator, 5 years; James Fingers, Backhoe/Front End Loader Operator, 5 years; James Leon, Jr., Maintenance Aide I, 5 years; Christopher Pruitt, Distributor/Roller Operator, 5 years; Veronica Richards, Rest Area Attendant, 5 years; and Mel Fowler, Motor Patrol Operator, 5 years,



District 10: Nathan Thomas





RECOVERY (continued from Page 3)

Many of the evacuees arrived in Arkansas with very little in the way of clothing. Pleas for donations from the public resulted in mountains of clothing and supplies. The next challenge was to determine how to get the supplies distributed to those in need.

The Arkansas Department of Emergency Management contacted the AHTD to request equipment and personnel to relocate pallets of donated goods to various evacuee camps. AHTD District 4 personnel responded by providing trucks and manpower, and during a three-day period, moved 535 pallets of goods to dry storage.

"One of the things we are most proud of is the timeliness of the response by our personnel," stated District 4 Engineer Joe Shipman.

In the weeks to follow, conditions improved in the stormstricken area and evacuees' thoughts turned to returning home. At this point, the AHTD's Planning & Research Division entered the picture.

The Public Transportation Section was given the responsibility for coordinating transportation requests from Governor Huckabee's Task Force for several camps across the state. The AHTD worked through local area transit systems to meet those needs. In some instances, Planning & Research employees stepped in to handle special requests for transportation.

As AHTD personnel stationed down south wrapped up their duties, two things about the return to Arkansas worried them. One was finding gasoline in the gulf area and the other was the possibility of another hit from a hurricane...Hurricane Rita. Fortunately, they found one and not the other. Gasoline was available and Rita chose a different path to follow.

Director Flowers summarized the Department's involvement in the hurricane relief area and here at home saying, "We are extremely proud of the effort of our staff and commend them for their hard work and long hours."

AHP officer CPL Darren Smith summarized it this way, "The people of Mississippi are great and I was glad to represent my state, the AHTD and the Arkansas Highway Police in such a wonderful effort."

The AHTD 2005 United Way Campaign is Underway!

With your help, United Way supports a large variety of health and human services organizations in Arkansas. Using a network of local charitable groups and volunteers, they reach citizens of all ages and from all walks of life.

Please consider helping improve the quality of life for those in need. Watch for your pledge card and return it soon!

The AHTD booth at the Arkansas State Fair was once again a great success! The Department appreciates the work and support of the employees who took time to staff the booth this year. Thank you!





Four-Day Work Week Ending

AHTD employees currently working the four-day work schedule will revert to the normal five-day, eight-hour work schedule beginning on Thursday, October 27th.

Those affected include: Area Maintenance Superintendents, District Equipment & Maintenance Supervisors, District Shop Crews, Equipment & Procurement Shop Personnel, Facilities Management Personnel, Field Maintenance Personnel, Heavy Bridge Maintenance Crews, Job Superintendents, Profiling, Radio Maintenance Specialists, Safety Inspection Officers, Shop Supervisors, Sign Shop Personnel, Storeroom Personnel, Striping & Signing Crews, Surveys Division Survey Parties, Technical Services Section and Field Personnel.



NEW EMPLOYEES

COMPUTER SERVICES Chad Walker Computer Technician III

CONSTRUCTION Gary Disney Construction Aide II Richard Jones Construction Aide I

HUMAN RESOURCES Ronald Reed Mail Courier

PLANNING & RESEARCH Jeffrey Brown Civil Engineer I

Kyle Barnett General Laborer Jerry Cleveland Single Axle Truck Driver

DISTRICT 4 Richard Gilmore Single Axle Truck Driver Kristopher McCullah General Laborer Kristopher McCullan General Laborer Jerad Owens Single Axle Truck Driver Lena Rhodes Single Axle Truck Driver Tommy Towler Single Axle Truck Driver Dustin Ullrich Single Axle Truck Driver

DISTRICT 5 Rebecca Bohannan General Laborer Evan Higginbottom Single Axle Truck Driver Stacey Kirker Janitor Charles Wallace Single Axle Truck Driver

DISTRICT 6 Stephen Brown Roller Operator Rodney McKnight Single Axle Truck Driver

DISTRICT 7 Roosevelt Wright Single Axle Truck Driver

DISTRICT 8 Mitchell Newman Single Axle Truck Driver

DISTRICT 9 Misty Barber General Laborer Courtney Flowers General Laborer Fred Jordan Single Axle Truck Driver

DISTRICT 10 Lanz Loyd Single Axle Truck Driver Patricia Shipman General Laborer Tim Vest General Laborer

PROMOTIONS

ARKANSAS HIGHWAY POLICE Ross Batson Sergeant Jeffrey Bickerstaff Sergeant Robert Garrett Sergeant Timothy Gushing Sergeant Larry Mitchell Sergeant

Holly Thomas Bridge Design Engineer

ENVIRONMENTAL Eric Sanders Environmental Field Tech II

MAINTENANCE Paul Forst Paint Transport Truck Driver Billy Harrod Traffic Services Specialist

PLANNING & RESEARCH Joseph Wolfe Office Admin. Asst. II

RIGHT OF WAY Jody Bowles Administrative Aide IV

ROADWAY DESIGN Frank Bray, Jr. Staff Design Engineer

DISTRICT 1 Terry Evans Construction Field Engr. II Joseph Muscalino Crew Leader Kenny Smith Crew Leader Arthur Williams Construction Aide II Richard Yocum Construction Aide II

DISTRICT 2 Brian Copeland Single Axle Truck Driver

Jeramy Purley Single Axle Truck Driver Keith Robertson Construction Aide III Wendol Swinney Resident Engineer

DISTRICT 3 DISTRICT 3
Athena Bright Inspector
William Buck Single Axle Truck Driver
Joe Dorman Motor Patrol Operator-Finish
Curtis Hill Dozer Operator- Finish
James Huckabee Single Axle Truck Driver
Latricia Jones Motor Patrol Operator-Finish Bucky Sawyer Single Axle Truck Driver

DISTRICT 4 Don Glover Maintenance Aide II Paul Kendrick Dozer Operator- Finish

DISTRICT 5 Roosevelt Brandon Multi-Axle Truck Driver Marlon Brown Asphalt Tank Truck Driver Young Mack, IV Construction Project Coord. Linda Mitchell Area Headquarters Attendant

DISTRICT 6 Jeromy Beman Multi-Axle Truck Driver Sarah Mullins Single Axle Truck Driver Darrell Smith Backhoe/Front End Loader Opr. Anja Stokes Maintenance Aide I

DISTRICT 8 Joann Bowles Spreader Operator Melvin Campbell Maintenance Aide I Michael Guess Bridge Repairer I Mark McClanahan Bridge Repairer I Paul Voss Distributor/Roller Operator

Brenda Flower Crew Leader Tammy Vanderwaal Area Hq. Attendant

Jeffery Rawls Bridge Repairer I Brandon Sutton Construction Aide I T. David Ellis Construction Aide I Joy Brown Construction Aide I

SERVICE AWARDS

ARKANSAS HIGHWAY POLICE Daniel McArthur Patrol Officer 1CL, 20 yrs.

BRIDGE Jason Burks Structural Detailer, 5 yrs.
Charles Linz Staff Bridge Design Engr., 20 yrs.

CONSTRUCTION Ricky Benson Construction Helper II, 15 yrs. Billy Berry Senior Inspector, 35 yrs.

Mark Crumpton Construction Aide III, 25 yrs. Cheryl Davies Construction Helper I, 5 yrs. Cheryl Davies Construction Helper I, 5 yrs.
Melvin Fisher Senior Const. Matl. Insp., 20 yrs.
Tommy Jones Const. Project Coord., 40 yrs.
Pamela Kerivan Const. Materials Insp., 10 yrs.
Robert Robertson, Jr. Const. Proj. Coord., 20 yrs.
David Shipman Senior Inspector, 20 yrs.
Kevin Thornton Asst. Resident Engr., 20 yrs.
Samuel Turner Const. Project Coord., 30 yrs.
Carrol Van Dalsen Inspector, 35 yrs.

DIRECTOR Frank Vozel, Jr. Asst. to the Director, 35 yrs.

Gloris Cox Area Headquarters Att., 10 yrs. Joyce Davenport Rest Area Attendant, 10 yrs. Anthony Lewis Multi-Axle Truck Driver, 10 yrs. Joseph Muscalino Crew Leader, 30 yrs.

Ezra McFadden Area Maint. Supervisor, 20 yrs. Robert Poston Motor Patrol Opr.-Finish, 25 yrs.

Kenny Bennett District Maint. Engineer, 20 yrs. Erie Collums Parts Runner, 10 yrs. Mary Martin Dist. Bridge Insp. Helper, 10 yrs. Stephen Pickering Bckh./Fr. End Load. Opr., 10 yrs.

DISTRICT 4 Peggy Scott Maintenance Aide II, 20 yrs.

John Kent Area Headquarters Attendant, 5 yrs. Jeremy Matheny Bridge Repairer II, 10 yrs. Steve Powell Single Axle Truck Driver, 5 yrs. David Thompson Parts Runner 10 yrs.

DISTRICT 6 Robert Bates Maintenance Aide II, 5 yrs. Mac Dotson Multi-Axle Truck Driver, 20 yrs. Larry Gorbet Area Maint. Supervisor, 35 yrs. William Marlow District Bridge Insp., 15 yrs.
Robert Phillips Backh/Fr. End Load. Opr., 5 yrs.
Ronald Scarborough Dist. Bridge Insp. Hlp., 10 yrs.
Kerri Stephens Paver Operator, 10 yrs.

DISTRICT 7 Carl Bachelor District Engineer, 20 yrs.
Richard Hearnsberger Area Maint. Supv., 30 yrs. Randall Priddy Maintenance Aide I, 10 yrs.

DISTRICT 8 James Gardner Distributor/Roller Opr., 10 yrs. Ora Helton Maintenance Aide I, 5 yrs.

Mark Koone Area Maint. Supervisor, 30 yrs.

James Branstetter Maintenance Aide I, 15 yrs.

ENVIRONMENTAL Robert Fuhler Section Head - GIS, 15 yrs. Lynn Malbrough Asst. Division Head, 20 yrs.

EQUIPMENT & PROCUREMENT John Allen Storeroom Supervisor, 25 yrs Charles Krontz, Sr. Senior Mechanic, 10 yrs.

HUMAN RESOURCES Lisa Harness Office Admn Asst. I, 20 yrs.

MAINTENANCE Clinton Melton Bridge Repairer II, 5 yrs.

MATERIALS Rodney Cole District Materials Supv., 20 yrs. Larry Williams Materials Technician IV, 30 yrs.

PLANNING & RESEARCH Alan Meadors Division Head, 25 yrs.

PROGRAMS & CONTRACTS Don Young Sect. Head - Reproduction, 15 yrs.

Donald Bearden Realty Appraiser II, 5 yrs. Bob Colford Sect. Head- Appraisals, 20 yrs.

ROADWAY DESIGN Charles Clements Division Head, 30 yrs. John Mathis Staff Design Engineer, 20 yrs. Charles Palmer Adv. Design Engineer, 5 yrs.

SURVEYS Phillip Rye Automated Surveys Sys. Engr., 10 yrs. Evans Scott Surveys Technician II, 10 yrs.

Tony Wooldridge Surveys Technician II, 15 yrs.

MAINTENANCE Charles Latture Traffic Services Spec., 43+ yrs.

RETIREMENTS

Michael Norris Maintenance Aide I, 7+ yrs. **DISTRICT 5** Leon Sanders Motor Patrol Opr. Finish, 27+ yrs.

DISTRICT 6 Lamoin Tripp Guard, 18+ yrs.

DISTRICT 1

DISTRICT 7 Thomas Greene Motor Patrol Operator, 18+ yrs.

Glen Akins Backh./Front End Load. Opr., 13+yrs.
Ronnie Friddle Dist./Roller Operator, 14+yrs.
Ernest Pittman Multi-Axle Truck Driver, 5+yrs.
Archie Sappenfield Senior Mechanic, 9+yrs.

MEMORIALS

LEGAL Donald R. Langston 8/8/05, Retired

Arbruary F. Beavers 9/24/05, Retired Hebert R. Cross 9/26/05, Retired Francis Ward 9/27/05, Retired

DISTRICT 5 Willis C. Brokaw 9/6/05. Retired

DISTRICT 6 Roy L. Walters 9/24/05, Retired DISTRICT 7 Otis E. Brown 9/28/05, Retired

DISTRICT 8 Zenna H. Higgs, Jr. 9/11/05, Retired Deward C. Smith 9/25/05, Retired

DISTRICT 9 Bennie B. Edwards 9/15/05, Retired

DISTRICT 10 Robert C. Metcalf 9/16/05, Retired

MILITARY DUTY

As of 10/10/05, the AHTD has 11 employees serving active duty in the military. Dates denote the deployment or returning date.

ARKANSAS HIGHWAY POLICE Sandra Bates Corporal, 10/4/05

MAINTENANCE

Chuck Bishop Comm. Maint. Spec., 9/29/05 RIGHT OF WAY

B. Kevin Young Utility Coordinator I, 5/5/05

DISTRICT 1 James Barte Senior Inspector, 9/28/04 Lamaris Mitchell Sgl. Axle Tr. Dr., 10/13/03

DISTRICT 4 Leslie Barnett Const. Proj. Coord., 10/13/04 Brandon Bowen Mechanic, 9/2/05 Brian Powell Constr. Field Engr., 9/6/05

DISTRICT 5 Greg Hellman Inspector, 9/9/05

DISTRICT 6 Shirley Hammett Area Hq. Att., 7/20/04 Alfred Langhorn Maint. Aide II, 10/13/04

MAINTENANCE Bobby Allison Comm. Maint. Spec., 9/13/05

Lenora Wilson Robinson Mot. Asst. Prov., 9/16/05 J.L. Ramsey Maintenance Aide II, 9/8/05

DISTRICT 5 Elvis Richmond, Sr. Const. Mat. Insp., 9/13/05

William Alvey Area Maint. Supervisor, 9/22/05 Donnie Duvall Senior Mechanic, 9/14/05 Michael Bunton Sgl. Axle Tr. Dr., 10/4/05

Willie Mitchell Crew Leader, 9/13/05 W. C. Tobar Multi-Axle Truck Driver, 9/15/05 Rufus Mitchell Rest Area Attendant, 9/14/05 Dustin Miller Bridge Repairer, 9/15/05

ARKANSAS HIGHWAY COMMISSION

Mary P. "Prissy" Hickerson, Chairman Jonathan Barnett, Vice Chairman Carl S. Rosenbaum, Member R. Madison Murphy, Member John Ed Regenold, Member

Dan Flowers, AHTD Director



Arkansas State Highway & Transportation Department Public Affairs Office P.O. Box 2261 Little Rock, AR 72203

State Highway 66 in Stone County. "SaidT al Sylve of 19wanA